

ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS...

Did you know the U.S. Congress declared 1991 "The Year of the Wetlands"? What are Wetlands?.....

These are very special areas that border the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers, and all rivers, lakes, streams and oceans. They are marshes, bogs and swamps that are the home for many types of animals and plants. They are nesting grounds for many migrating ducks, geese and other waterfowl.

CAN YOU FIND THE WILDLIFE THAT LIVES IN THE WETLANDS OF THE ST. CROIX NATIONAL SCENIC RIVERWAY?

- Kingfisher
- Loon
- Dragonfly
- Butterfly
- Crayfish
- Salamander
- Beaver
- Mallard
- Red-Winged Blackbird
- Great Blue Heron
- Ladybug
- Mosquito
- Tadpole
- Hawk
- Spider
- Duck
- Muskrat
- Goose
- Raccoon
- Snail
- Otter
- Frog
- Clam
- Mussel
- Snake
- Mink
- Turtle

M	E	R	G	A	N	S	E	R	T	U	R	T	L	E	P	Z	D
A	E	L	O	P	D	A	T	O	R	N	P	A	Q	R	F	G	R
L	S	U	O	W	U	Y	A	C	S	B	Z	X	V	T	L	Q	P
L	G	U	S	S	C	L	W	Y	O	R	M	A	X	V	V	C	T
A	R	A	E	P	K	I	N	G	F	I	S	H	E	R	I	L	Z
R	E	D	W	I	N	G	E	D	B	L	A	C	K	B	I	R	D
D	A	G	K	D	L	I	V	E	U	E	L	F	W	T	S	D	R
W	T	C	R	E	E	N	A	M	H	K	A	Q	A	R	X	B	A
X	B	I	J	R	M	V	O	U	P	A	M	C	H	Y	Z	E	G
C	L	A	M	L	E	Q	T	S	U	N	A	R	V	A	W	G	O
V	U	K	M	R	N	S	P	K	O	S	N	A	I	L	D	B	N
S	E	H	J	F	C	A	Z	R	L	A	D	Y	B	U	G	Y	F
R	H	A	W	K	P	R	S	A	O	T	E	F	U	V	W	X	L
N	E	M	O	S	Q	U	I	T	O	Z	R	I	X	H	L	M	Y
F	R	O	G	A	C	E	G	I	N	N	J	S	H	F	D	B	Z
Z	O	T	T	E	R	A	C	C	O	O	N	H	Z	O	M	T	S
K	N	I	M	B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y	A	G	I	B	T



Wetlands are also valuable because:

1. They help control flooding by soaking up extra water from rain and snow (like a sponge) and releasing it a little at a time.
2. They act like a big filter. They trap silt, preventing extra nutrients and also things that pollute the water from getting into our rivers, lakes and streams.
3. They are home to many plants...lots of food for lots of wildlife.
4. They are wonderful places to visit because you are likely to see so much wildlife when you go exploring in a wetland.
5. They prevent soil erosion by holding the earth in place so it won't wash away along our waterways.

Almost half of the wetlands in the United States have been destroyed. People thought other use for the land was more important: putting up factories, building houses and shopping centers, farming, etc. Now people know it is important to save wetlands, and find less important land to use for their businesses.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? Be a wetland observer...find a wetland and write down any changes that happen in your wetland. Watch your wetland every week for a year and report changes to your parents, teachers, and friends. Be a protector of wetlands by picking up any garbage you see....it can kill wildlife.

**ENJOY EXPLORING THE WETLANDS OF THE ST. CROIX
NATIONAL SCENIC RIVERWAY!!!!!!**